

Flt Lt Hugh Lamour Magee 81690 RAFVR

Hugh was born in Belfast in 1911 the son of Edward Magee and Jane Magee nee Lamour. He gained his B.A. at Trinity College, Dublin and in 1932 he was appointed an Assistant Master at Dunmurry PE School, Co. Down.

Hugh joined the RAF in 1939 as an Observer, before training as a Navigator. He was commissioned in June 1940.

On 16 March 1942, 57 Sqn Wellington (X3599) departed RAF Feltwell at 10:45 on a cross-country exercise to Aldergrove, Northern Ireland. Hugh, the Squadron Navigation Officer, was on board taking the opportunity to travel home on leave to Ireland. Bad weather was encountered over the Irish Sea and, in order to continue visually, the pilot descended from 5000 feet to 800 feet to keep below cloud. As they approached the coast, the aircraft commenced a climb to avoid the hilly terrain but, despite both engines running normal, the aircraft flew into Eagle Rock, Slieve Donard, Co Down killing 6 of the 7 on board. Only the rear-gunner who was at the back of the aircraft survived.

Also killed were : FO Harold Eric Hunter, FO John William Elliott RCAF, Section Officer Barbara Kathleen Blakiston-Houston WAAF, Sgt William Swordy Taylor, Reverend James Dawson Crawford

Hugh is buried in Victoria Cemetery, Carrickfergus, Co. Antrim

Hugh is commemorated on Wall Panel 203